

Remarks

Claims 104-110, 112-114, and 116 were pending prior to this amendment. By this amendment, claim 104 is currently amended, claim 116 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and no new claims are presented. No new matter is introduced.

Claim 104 is currently amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 116, i.e., to specify that the claimed method includes administering to the subject a tumor-specific antigen.

Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner has indicated that the drawings are acceptable. Applicant also takes note that the previous claim rejections made under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103 have presumably been withdrawn by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests clarification on this point if this is not the case.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the Abstract for having more than 150 words. In response, Applicant has provided a replacement Abstract with fewer than 150 words. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the replacement Abstract and withdraw the objection to the format of the Abstract.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner indicated that claims 104-110 and 112-114 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Tam (US 5,932,556). The Examiner also indicated that claim 116 is free of the prior art of record and is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant by this amendment has incorporated the limitations of claim 116 into claim 104 and canceled claim 116. Currently amended claim 104 thus corresponds to

previous claim 116 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 104). Applicant respectfully submits that the current amendment of claims 104 and 116 thus overcomes both the rejection of claim 104 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and the objection to claim 116. Claims 105-110 and 112-114 depend from claim 104. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims 104-110 and 112-114 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Objection to Claim 116


As noted above, the Examiner indicated that claim 116 is free of the prior art of record and is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For reasons provided above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection to claim 116.

Summary

It is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Wagner et al., Applicant

By: 
Alan W. Steele, Reg. No. 45,128
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210-2211
Tel. 617.720.3500

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